

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 through 225: Cancelled

226. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector comprising a DNA regulatory element operably linked to a DNA molecule that encodes a wild-type human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable propagation in *E. coli*.

227. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector comprising a DNA regulatory element operably linked to a DNA molecule encoding the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein of Figure 15 wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable propagation in *E. coli* as a result of:

(a) said DNA regulatory element permitting maintenance of the DNA molecule in *E. coli* at a low copy number, or

(b) the nucleotide sequence of the DNA molecule being modified to disrupt its expression in *E. coli* while allowing its expression in mammalian cells.

228. (New) A DNA molecule comprising:

(a) a DNA sequence that encodes wild-type human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, and

(b) at least one regulatory element operably linked to said uninterrupted DNA sequence which element permits transcription of the uninterrupted DNA sequence in a host prokaryotic cell.

229. (New) A DNA molecule according to claim 228 wherein said DNA sequence contains at least one silent mutation which stabilizes expression of the gene.

230. (New) A plasmid comprising a DNA molecule according claim 228.

231. (New) A host prokaryotic cell comprising a plasmid according claim 230.

232. (New) A DNA molecule comprising:

- (a) an uninterrupted DNA sequence that encodes wild-type, human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, and
- (b) at least one regulatory element operably linked to said uninterrupted DNA sequence which element permits transcription of the uninterrupted DNA sequence in a host eukaryotic cell.

233. (New) The DNA molecule according to claim 232 wherein said regulatory element DNA corresponds to at least a portion of the genome of a virus which portion is cable of infecting the host eukaryotic cell.

234. (New) A recombinant vector according to claim 233 wherein the virus is a retrovirus.

235. (New) A viral vector containing an encoding sequence for human CFTR.

236. (New) A vector capable of being replicated in an *E. coli* host cell, wherein said vector that contains an encoding sequence for human CFTR and is suitable for use in gene therapy.

237. (New) A method of treating cystic fibrosis with gene therapy comprising the step of contacting a patient affected therewith with a purified and isolated DNA molecule that includes a nucleotide sequence that encodes human CFTR protein, wherein said encoding sequence consists essentially of a continuous cDNA.

238. (New) A viable host *E. coli* cell that comprises a DNA sequence coding for human CFTR protein.

239. (New) A host *E. coli* cell according to claim 238 that comprises a plasmid, itself comprising a CFTR-encoding DNA sequence, wherein said plasmid can be maintained and propagated in said cell.

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